

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A device for connecting two rigid tubular objects, comprising:

-a male part ~~(6)~~ and a female part ~~(1)~~, which are interconnectable, the female part ~~(1)~~ ~~consisting of~~ including a sleeve ~~(2)~~ which at one of its ends is at least one of connected to ~~or~~ and constitutes an integral part of one of said objects and which at its other end is provided with at least one recess ~~(3, 4)~~, the male part ~~(6)~~ ~~consisting of~~ including a tube portion which at one of its ends is at least one of connected to ~~and~~ or constitutes an integral part of the other of said objects and at its other end ~~(7)~~ in its outer wall is provided with a transverse edge ~~(8)~~ which is formed by an indentation arranged in the outer wall of the male part, ; and

a sleeve-shaped element ~~(11)~~ being arranged to be placed between the parts when inserting the male part ~~(6)~~ into the female part ~~(1)~~, the element ~~(11)~~ being provided with at least one resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ with a first means ~~(14, 15)~~ ~~which is arranged to~~ for resiliently ~~engage~~ engaging the recess ~~(3, 4)~~ of the female part when inserting the element ~~(11)~~ into the female part ~~(1)~~, and a second means ~~(16, 17)~~ ~~which is arranged to~~ for resiliently snapping into place behind the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~ when inserting the male part ~~(6)~~ into the element ~~(11)~~, ~~characterised in that~~

the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ ~~allowing~~ separation of the female part ~~(1)~~ and the male part ~~(6)~~ by turning the element ~~(11)~~ relative to the male part ~~(6)~~ to a position where the second means ~~(16, 17)~~ of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ is

placed radially outside the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part, the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~, in turning for separation, with a portion ~~(9)~~ in the recess ~~(3, 4)~~ of the female part ~~(1)~~ being raised radially outside the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the first means of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ ~~consists of~~ includes a stop lug ~~(14, 15)~~ projecting from the outer wall thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein in which~~ the second means of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ ~~consists of~~ includes a stopping edge ~~(16, 17)~~ extending inwards from the inner wall thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 2, ~~wherein in which~~ the element ~~(11)~~ at one of its outer ends is provided with a first abutting means ~~(18)~~ ~~which is arranged to~~ for abutting against the mouth ~~(5)~~ of the sleeve ~~(2)~~ when the stop lug ~~(14, 15)~~ of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ engages the recess ~~(3, 4)~~ of the female part ~~(1)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 4, ~~wherein in which~~ a second abutting means ~~(10)~~ is arranged on the male part ~~(6)~~ at a greater distance from the other end ~~(7)~~ thereof than its transverse edge ~~(8)~~, and ~~that~~ wherein said second abutting means is for ~~(11)~~ ~~abutting~~ against the first abutting means ~~(18)~~ of the element ~~(11)~~ when the stopping edge ~~(16, 17)~~ of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ abuts against the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 5, ~~in which~~ wherein the outer diameter of the male part ~~(6)~~ adjacent to a portion between its other end ~~(7)~~ and the second abutting means ~~(10)~~ is somewhat smaller than both the inner

diameter of the element ~~(11)~~ and the inner diameter of the remaining portion ~~(2b)~~ of the sleeve ~~(2)~~, the length of this portion exceeds the length of the mouth portion ~~(2a)~~ of the female part ~~(1)~~, resulting in said other end of the male part extending a distance into the remaining portion of the sleeve ~~(2)~~ past said opposite outer end ~~(19)~~ of the element ~~(11)~~ when the second abutting means ~~(10)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~ abuts against the first abutting means ~~(18)~~ of the element ~~(11)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 6, ~~in which~~wherein at least one O-ring ~~(20)~~ is arranged in the transition ~~(2e)~~ between the mouth portion ~~(2a)~~ and the remaining portion ~~(2b)~~ of the sleeve ~~(2)~~ so as to sealingly abut against the inside of the sleeve ~~(2)~~ and against the outer wall of the male part ~~(6)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein said portion in the recess ~~(3, 4)~~ of the female part ~~(1)~~ is a lug ~~(6)~~ with a slope on which the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ runs so that the resilient tongue is disengaged from the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~ when releasing the male part ~~(6)~~ by turning of the element ~~(11)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein said portion in the recess ~~(3, 4)~~ of the female part is a groove with a slope, in which the tip ~~(23, 24)~~ of the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ runs so that the resilient tongue ~~(12, 13)~~ is disengaged from the transverse edge of the male part when releasing the male part by turning of the element.

10. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the transverse edge ~~(8)~~ of the male part ~~(6)~~ fully encloses the male part ~~(6)~~.